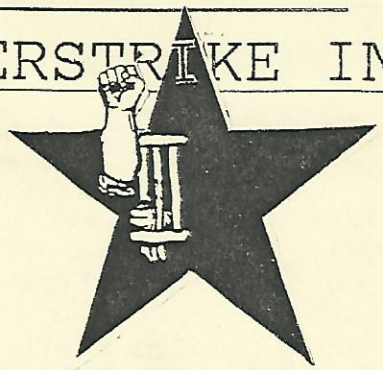
POLITICAL PRISONERS ON HUNGERSTRIKE IN SPAIN AND UNITED STATES.



DATE: FEB. 14/1990.

Political prisoners are now on hungerstrike in Spain & the US to protest repression & prison policies. This is an emergency appeal for your immediate solidarity & support. Below we have reprinted original communiques from these seperate actions, plus updates as well as addresses & phone numbers to contact to show support for these prisoners. *Solidarity is a weapon!*

John Perotti is a long time prison activist who most recently was involved in organising a branch of the *Industrial Workers of the world* inside the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, & who has been subjected to intense brutality by prison guards. "Due to the increased repression here, murders & beatings of our comrades by guards, the fact that the control unit remains open & we are subjected to longterm isolation, & the recent railroad done on me... we have decided to repeat the actions of our IRA comrades in H-Block. Since armed revolution is not feasible in this section of the prison, we have decided to use a non-violent form of resistance, putting only our lives on the line. Starting on Feb.14/90, myself, Sudun Swafford & Michael Day- the only prisoners in the Control Unit- will begin a death fast. As you may know, death fasts are not effective without a broad base of outside support. Without that the prisoncrats will allow us to die without anyone knowing the cause or reasons & without pressure being applied on them by publicity, letters & telegrams of protest, news media & airplay publicising our fast, & daily phone-calls to the warden & director checking on our physical & mental well-being & demanding our conditions be met. Our main demands are;

-transfers out of state.
-Shutdown the Control Unit.
-Stop Unit Management & Behaviour Modifications.
-Allow isolation prisoners all their personal property, literature, & contact visits w/family.
-Stop routine beatings, macings, fire-hosings of prisoners by guards.
-Prosecute all guards who beat & murder prisoners just as we are prosecuted.
-Provide adequate medical treatmnt
-Provide due process in placement & release from isolation.
-Elevate the Pay scale-a fair days wage for a fair days labour.
-Abolish the Death Penalty.
-Lower the periods of incarceration/sentencing laws.
-Formulate a group of private,unbiased citizens to monitor human rights violations in prisons.

It is time for change... it's time to TEAR DOWN THE WALLS!"

John Perotti.

UPDATE ON ACTION

On the morning of Feb.14 when John Perotti & the other prisoners began the hungerstrike, he was transferred to the Lebanon Correctional centre in an obvious attempt to disrupt the solidarity actions. We would recommend that you phone the Warden, Mr. Dallman, or the department Warden, Ron campbell to clearly show that we do know John Perotti has been transferred & that he & other comrades are on hungerstrike. The number is (513)-932-1211.

When the hungerstrike began 1/3 of the prisoners at the S. Ohio Correctional Facility refused food in solidarity, as well as 7 prisoners in Wisconsin, 2 in wallawalla, & an undetermined number in Marion prison.

John Perotti continued...

Write letters of support, details of protest actions etc. to;

Industrial Workers of the world (IWW), General defense committee no. 1, PO Box 26381, trotwood Ohio 45426, USA.
Or phone; Ruben Slaten (513) 475±2653
Rev. Linda Leisure (614) 864-2648.

GRAPO PRISONERS HUNGERSTRIKE IN SPAIN

Since Nov. 30/89 more than sixty jailed members of the PCE(r) (Communist Party of Spain (reformed)) & GRAPO (First of October Anti-fascist Resistance groups) plus one libertarian have been taking part in an UNLIMITED HUNGERSTRIKE in the many different prisons where they were transferred recently. The strike is an attempt to thwart the social-fascist governments plan to physically eleminate political prisoners. In various of the 20 Spanish jails involved they have been beaten, humiliated, tortured, seen their food adulterated & their mail witheld etc. When the 'Spanish Socialist workers Party' began its campaign of repression in 1987 & initiated its policy of dividing up & transferring political prisoners, it breached an agreement signed by the 'Democratic centre Union' gov't. & attested to by representatives of the International Red Cross, guaranteeing political prisoners the right to decent & collective living conditions. This written agreement was obtained only after a series of long & debilitating hungerstrikes culminating in the death of comrade *Juan Jose Crespo Galende.* After 3 years of struggle, resistance & constant denunciations of torture, segration, & other methods meant to exterminate political prisoners, the only option left to these prisoners has been to call an UNLIMITED HUNGERSTRIKE TO ACHIEVE THE TRANSFER OF EVERYONE TO ONE PRISON WITH PROPER & HUMANE LIVING CONDITIONS.

After 2 months of the hungerstrike, 40 GRAPO prisoners are now in hospital, 2 in critical condition. Since Dec 23/89 members of the Basque *Association of family & friends of Political Prisoners* have been occupying the offices of the International Red cross in bilbao, & will leave only when the prison hunger strike has ended. Four members of the *Guardia civil* have been killed by GRAPO commandos to back up the demands of the prisoners.

"Ahead there looms a long, difficult, uphill battle in which several among us may leave health & life itself behind, but it seems obvious that few outlets remain & that only bringing our prisoners back together can guarantee any future respect for our physical & political integrity. Therefore we are calling for comradely solidarity from all of you who work & struggle on the outside, for only with your support shall we lay the criminal plans of the Spanish 'Socialist workers Party' state to rest... Sisters & brothers, only brining political prisoners *back together* & this achieved through our own strength & that of our supporters, can guarantee our dignity & our very lives. Every political tendency represented in spanish jails today has an urgent need to see its members living in prison collectives, whether communist, as in our case, or anarchist, or Basque, Catalan or Galician nationalist. NO SEGREGATION & NO EXTERMINATION OF POLITICAL PRISONERS! NO MORE TRANSFERS, FIGHT TO REUNITE!" *-Political prisoners of the PCE(r), GRAPO, & one libertarian.*

- *Messages of Solidarity to; AFAPP de Madrid, Apartado de correos 1997, 08080 Barcelona Spain.*
- *Messages of protest to; Spanish consulate 808-675 W. Hastings, 688-9471.*

This leaflet produced by anarchists in Vancouver, Canada. For more info;

ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

ABC TORONTO, P.O. BOX 6326 STN A, TORONTO, ONTARIO CANADA M5W 1P7 • TEL: (416)947-0808